Applicant believes that examination of the entire Application can be made without serious burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction Requirement and requests its withdrawal.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Preliminary Amendment is to the above-identified Patent Application. The Application, as amended, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Please amend the above-captioned Patent Application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-6 and 15-22 without prejudice:

Please add the following new claims:

Sub C1

23. A remote control device adapted for use by a human to control and select from a screen, the remote control device comprising:

a body adapted to be held by the human hand, the body having a top side and a bottom side;

a multiple function, thumb switch positioned on the top side of the body, the thumb switch being adapted for activation by a human thumb;

a finger switch positioned on the bottom side of the body, the finger switch being adapted to be activated by a human finger;

electronic means adapted to generate a signal upon activation of one of the switches; and

transmitting means for transmitting the signal from the electronic means.

A1

Sub B1

24. The remote control device of claim 23, wherein the thumb switch includes a center switch and an annular switch which surrounds the center switch, the annular switch including four individual quadrant switches.

25. The device of claim 24 wherein at least one of the quadrant switches includes a thumb base plate having a plurality of spaced apart electrical contacts and a thumb switch plate which is adapted to move relative to the thumb base plate, wherein the thumb switch plate selectively contacts one of the electrical contacts upon movement of the

thumb switch plate relative to the thumb base plate.

26. The device of claim 23 wherein the finger switch includes a slidable, finger switch plate which is adapted to be moved by the human finger relative to a finger base plate, the finger base plate including a plurality of electrical contacts, wherein movement of the finger switch plate relative to the finger base plate causes the finger switch plate to selectively interact with the electrical contacts on the finger base plate.

27. The device of claim 23 wherein the electronic means includes logic converting means for converting movement of individual quadrant switches to movement of a cursor on a display peripheral, wherein the distance of movement of the cursor varies according to the degree of thumb pressure on the quadrant switch and duration of contact.

28. The device of claim 23 including an electronic display window secured to the body; wherein the electronic means generates status information which is displayed on the electronic display.

29. A control mechanism comprising:

a display peripheral including a set of choices and a cursor, each choice having a set of sub-choices from which a selection of one or more sub-choices is desired, the cursor being movable between the choices and the sub-choices; and

a control device including a multiple function, thumb switch, the thumb switch including a center switch and an annular switch substantially surrounding the center switch, the annular switch being adapted to effect movement of the cursor between the plurality of choices and sub-choices and the center switch being adapted to effect selection of one of the choices and sub-choices identified by the cursor.

30. The control mechanism of claim 29 including a programmable logic, the programmable logic comprising:

a first data file containing the selection choice data;

a first function means for maintenance of logic state based on sequence of the switch activations and a second function means for maintenance of a cursor's movement based on the annular switch activations;

a second data file containing operating modes of an operating system, wherein each choice data from the first data file has a corresponding operating mode in the second data file, whereby the programmable logic enabling the display

of a selection screen populated with selection choice data from the first data file, enabling selection of a choice from the selection screen, enabling the corresponding operating mode identified in the second data file to be invoked.

31. The control mechanism of claim 29, wherein the sub-choices for one of the choices are represented by a Figure partially hidden by the sub-choices.

32. The control device of claim 29, wherein the degree of pressure on the annular switch controls the rate of cursor movement.

33. A control mechanism adapted to be used with a device which utilizes a computer, the control mechanism comprising:

a display peripheral for the computer, the display peripheral including a plurality of choices, at least one of the choices including a plurality of sub-choices, the display peripheral also including a cursor adapted to be moved between the choices and sub-choices; and

a remote control device including: (i) a body adapted to be held by a human hand, the body having a top side and a bottom side; (ii) a multiple function thumb switch positioned proximate to the top side, the thumb switch being adapted to be activated by a human thumb to activate the multiple functions of the thumb switch without physically separating the thumb from the thumb switch; (iii) an index finger switch positioned on the bottom side, the finger switch being adapted to be operated by sliding motion of index finger; (iv) an electronic means secured to the body, the electronic means converting the thumb and index finger switch activations to a signal; and (v) transmitting means adapted to transmit the signal from the electronic means.

34. The control mechanism of claim 33 comprising:

a first data file containing the selection choice data;

a first function means for maintenance of logic state based on sequence of the switch activations and a second function means for maintenance of a cursor's movement based on the annular switch activations; and

a second data file containing operating modes of an operating system, wherein each choice data from the first data file has a corresponding operating mode in the second data file, whereby the programmable logic enabling the display